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NEWS WORTH SHARING.

Ghomeshi choked, hit me: Actor

Lucy DeCoutere. Trailer Park Boys star the first to identify herself as eight women come forward with abuse allegations against former CBC host

Quoted

"He did not ask if I was into it. It was never a question. It was shocking to me." Lucy DeCoutere

Eight women from across Canada have now accused former CBC host Jian Ghomeshi of abusive behaviour ranging from allegations of beating and choking without consent to workplace sexual harassment.

The allegations Torstar News Service is probing range from 2002 to the present.

One of the women, popular Canadian television actor Lucy DeCoutere, has agreed to be identified.

DeCoutere, who plays Lucy on Trailer Park Boys, recalls an incident in 2003 when she alleges Ghomeshi, without warning or consent, choked her to the point she could not breathe and then slapped her hard three times on the side of her head.

"He did not ask if I was into it. It was never a question. It was shocking to me. The men I have spent time with are loving people," said DeCoutere, who, when she is not acting on Trailer Park Boys, is a captain in the Royal Canadian Air Force in New Brunswick.

Ghomeshi, 47, was fired Sunday from his job as host of Q, a flagship radio show of the publicly funded broadcaster. Ghomeshi has alleged in a lawsuit filed the next day that CBC made a "moral judgment" that his practice of a bondage-sadism sex life was wrong.

He is suing the CBC for $55 million for defamation and breach of trust and the corporation has said it will "vigorously" defend itself against Ghomeshi's lawsuit.

Torstar has presented Ghomeshi, his lawyers and his public relations staff with the allegations in this story and they have yet to respond.

He met some of the women during his 2012 tour to promote 1982, his best-selling memoir about a year in high school in Thornhill. Others he met at film festivals, at music or CBC events, or at the CBC workplace.

Over the course of Torstar's investigation, women who say they were victimized said they did not feel comfortable putting their name to the allegations. Some say they feared retaliation from Ghomeshi, online harassment and a negative impact on their careers.

DeCoutere said it was time for someone to speak publicly about the matter.

She first met Ghomeshi at a barbecue at a Banff television festival in 2003. They chatted and, in time, she visited Toronto and they had dinner at a restaurant on the Danforth. She recalls him telling her how famous he was and "how lucky you are to be with me." They eventually went back to his house in Riverdale. DeCoutere said they began making out and then she alleges he pushed her against the wall, choked her with his hands around her neck and then slapped her three times.

"That was something I had never experienced before," DeCoutere said, saying she left his house shortly after that in a taxi. "It did not escalate — it stopped," she said.

There are seven more cases that, including DeCoutere's allegations, bring to eight the total number of women who have come forward with stories of abuse. Of these eight stories, four were included in Torstar's original story published on Monday.

Four of the women came forward this week.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Lucy DeCoutere, who plays Lucy on Trailer Park Boys, recalls an incident in 2003 when she alleges Jian Ghomeshi physically abused her. BRIAN ATKINSON/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

More Ghomesi coverage, pages 3 and 15

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‘I felt like Jian was a CBC god’: Woman speaks out

Alleged cases of violence, sexual abuse. The CBC has announced they are investigating a case where Jian Ghomeshi allegedly told a CBC staffer he wanted to ‘hate f—’ her

FROM PAGE 1

Two of the eight women who allege they were physically assaulted by Jian Ghomeshi also say that before the alleged assaults in his home he introduced them to Big Ears Teddy, a stuffed bear, and he turned the bear around just before he slapped or choked them, saying that “Big Ears Teddy shouldn’t see this.”

One of the new women to come forward is a woman in her mid-20s who was a CBC producer in Montreal who dreamed of being on Q.

He met her at one of his book signings. Ghomeshi allegedly took her to his hotel room, threw her against the wall and was very “forceful” with her. She said she performed oral sex “to get out of there.” The woman, who still works in the media but not at CBC, said she decided not to complain about his behaviour because she feared he was too powerful.

“I felt like Jian was a CBC god,” she told Torstar News Service in an interview. She is the second CBC woman to come forward with allegations of sexual harassment by Ghomeshi.

The CBC has announced they are investigating the first case, where Ghomeshi allegedly told a CBC staffer he wanted to “hate f—” her.

Generally, the stories the women have told Torstar describe a man obsessed with his image and power, and someone who they say has little or no respect for barriers.

In 2002, Ghomeshi, then 35, was the host of Play, a culture and arts television show on CBC Newsworld. He struck up a conversation with a woman who was roughly his age and invited her to a taping of the show.

The first time she came to the taping at CBC headquarters, they ended the evening at a local pub and then he drove her to her car. She alleges that as soon as they were in the car Ghomeshi reached over to the passenger seat, grabbed her hair and “yanked it hard.”

“I was completely shocked,” she said. “He asked if I like it rough. Quite honestly I don’t remember what I said. I was so shocked.”

Though she regrets it now, she returned to a taping of the show two weeks later. He asked her to his home in Riverdale. Once there, she alleges that without consent he grabbed her hair and pulled her down to the floor. Then, she alleges, he delivered three sharp punches to the side of her head while she lay on the floor.

“I was crying. Just crying. He stood there looking at me and said, ‘You should leave.’” The woman said she called a taxi and left the home.

The CBC program As it Happens also interviewed this woman and broadcast an account of her allegations Wednesday.

In 2005, Ghomeshi, then 38, was at a Toronto music and dance event in a park in Toronto. He ran into a woman he knew from the arts and culture scene.

The woman, 34, had gone on a few dates with Ghomeshi but they had never been intimate. They went for a walk when the event was over and, according to the woman, Ghomeshi attacked her while they were sitting on a bench. He began kissing her forcefully and then “put his hands around my neck and choked me.”

“He smothered me,” she said. She alleges Ghomeshi then grabbed her arms hard and “bit” her, then pushed her down on the park bench and “groped” her.

“I pushed him away. It really scared me. He was so aggressive,” the woman said. The next day, she said Ghomeshi contacted her and “acted like nothing had happened.”

“There was absolutely nothing consensual about what happened to me,” the woman said.

Go to metronews.ca for the full story. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Former CBC host Jian Ghomeshi faces new allegations of physical abuse. KEITH BEATY/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Quoted

“He asked if I like it rough. Quite honestly I don’t remember what I said. I was so shocked.”

A woman who alleges physical abuse by Jian Ghomeshi in 2002

1 NEWS

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Lefties won't rain on Tory's parade, yet

Grace period?
Councillors say they'll wait and see if Tory really does aim to bring council together

A member (hidden) of John Tory's team, holds an umbrella to protect Toronto's mayor-elect from the rain, during a press conference at Nathan Phillips Square on Tuesday. ANDREW FRANCIS WALLACE/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Rob Ford was elected mayor four years ago on a promise to take a sledgehammer to city council, its transit plans and its budget. Immediately after he won, council's left wing began trying to figure out how to thwart his agenda.

John Tory was elected mayor Monday on a promise to bring council together. He will get a grace period.

Tory, a moderate conservative, will be granted an opportunity to be the consensus-building pragmatist he said he would be, progressive councillors said in interviews Wednesday.

"We have to give him a chance. We have to give his staff a chance," said Coun. Paula Fletcher. "I think council has proved that it wants a balanced approach in the City of Toronto. A steady, balanced approach. And I'll certainly give him a chance to make sure that that's what he's going to do. That's just what I think people want in the city."

Tory did not release a formal platform, and several of his promises were unspecific. One progressive councillor, who asked for anonymity to candidly discuss strategy, said Tory has such a vague mandate — "I'm not Rob Ford, we'll all get along, I'm not going to increase taxes past inflation, and I'm going to build SmartTrack someday" — that he has left an "awful lot of room for conversation" with the left.

"It's Tory's move," the councillor said. "By the end of January, it should be clear what kind of administration he wants to run. And we'll govern ourselves accordingly."

Tory's honeymoon may not be mere post-election courtesy. Coun. Maria Augimeri, a suburban progressive Tory supported in the election, said he will receive more votes on some issues from progressives than from conservatives.

"This is a pro-housing guy. This is a pro-transit guy," said Augimeri.

Augimeri said she expects Tory to operate in the inclusive manner of Mel Lastman, to whom he was an informal adviser. Lastman, another conservative, created positions to suit the passions of several progressives: Jack Layton was made homelessness advocate, Olivia Chow children's advocate, Joe Pantalone tree advocate.

"Every progressive had a leadership role. I envision that John Tory's administration would be similar to that," Augimeri said.

Coun. Mike Layton, Jack's son, said he would keep an "open mind" about the man who defeated his stepmother, Chow, two days ago.

"I think we'll have to see how Mr. Tory approaches this," said Layton. "Certainly, my door will be always open. I'm waiting for his call to see when he wants to sit down to talk about how we can make the city a better place."

The informal left-wing bloc, which has about 15 solid members, meets every month. There are 44 councillors in all.

Tory is likely to be opposed by most progressives on his effort to outsource garbage collection east of Yonge. He would face a stiff fight if he took any steps toward cancelling the Sheppard and Finch LRTs, as some area councillors want.

His proposal to pay for SmartTrack through tax increment financing has been questioned by councillors of all stripes. And he will have to finesse the tricky issue of the downtown relief line, a priority for many progressives that he believes is less important than SmartTrack.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Quoted

"He's not coming in with his mind simply made up, my way or the highway. And that's a relief."
Coun. Paula Fletcher

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T.O.'s top Twitter satirist sets sights on mayor-elect

LUKE SIMCOE
Metro Online

John Tory and Troy McClure from The Simpsons. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE/YOUTUBE

Within hours of John Tory's victory Monday, Richard Feren registered the @TOMayorTroy handle on Twitter. The account is a parody of the mayor-elect, featuring a picture of popular Simpsons character Troy McClure.

"You might remember me from such failed candidacies as the 2003 municipal and 2007 provincial elections," jokes Mayor Troy's bio.

Feren is the man behind @TOMayorFrod, one of the most popular — and polemical Rob Ford parody accounts.

After two years of lampooning Mayor Rob Ford in 140 characters or less, he's ready for a new challenge.

"With Rob Ford, I always thought he was a terrible person and his politics were terrible and he was terrible for the city. The satire was rooted in a kind of anger and disgust with him," Feren said.

"Whereas, Tory doesn't inspire the same kind of thing."

While Ford's various scandals provided plenty of comedic fodder, Feren will need to take a different tack with Tory.

"There's something about (his) very boringness," he said. "It's not necessarily a bad thing, but it can be satirized … maybe he'll admit to saying something stupid in one of his Ovaltine stupors."

There's also the issue of Tory's affluence. He's a former Rogers executive and the son of a Bay Street lawyer, so critics have often painted him as an elitist.

"He's a wealthy, old-money guy," Feren said. "He doesn't try to hide it or deny it like Doug Ford, but he's tone deaf to certain kinds of inequality, like telling women they should learn to play golf or saying there's no such thing as white privilege."

Feren actually voted for Tory — although he admits it was "partly strategic" — but his commitment to satire trumps any political allegiances.

"Satire is pointing to the worst of things and saying: 'We can do better than this.' It's about recognizing the absurdity of a situation so that you can then make a plan to address it," he said. "Even the darkest satire contains a kernel of hope."

With Rob Ford returning to his old Ward 2 council seat, Mayor Frod's 11,000 followers can rest assured that Feren will keep the former mayor in his crosshairs. He has no plans to shutter the account, despite Ford's cancer diagnosis.

"Frankly, I don't have much sympathy for him," Feren said. "He chose to run for office and will be a sitting councillor. As a public figure, he's still a fair target."

Taking it off-screen

Although Twitter continues to be his platform of choice, Richard Feren — who works as a sound designer for stage productions — is eyeing ways to move his satire off the screen.

He was inspired by Michael Dunbar Jr., who followed Doug Ford around on the campaign trail brandishing signs emblazoned with Ford's unofficial "Folks" catchphrase.

Dunbar remained ambiguous about his intentions, but many viewed his performance as a critique of the Fords' populist rhetoric.

"We need more live pranks and performance art," Feren said.

"I think traditional protests can be tuned-out too easily, whereas doing something like the Folks Guy did gets people's minds working in a different way. … It really grabs people because they're not sure what to expect."

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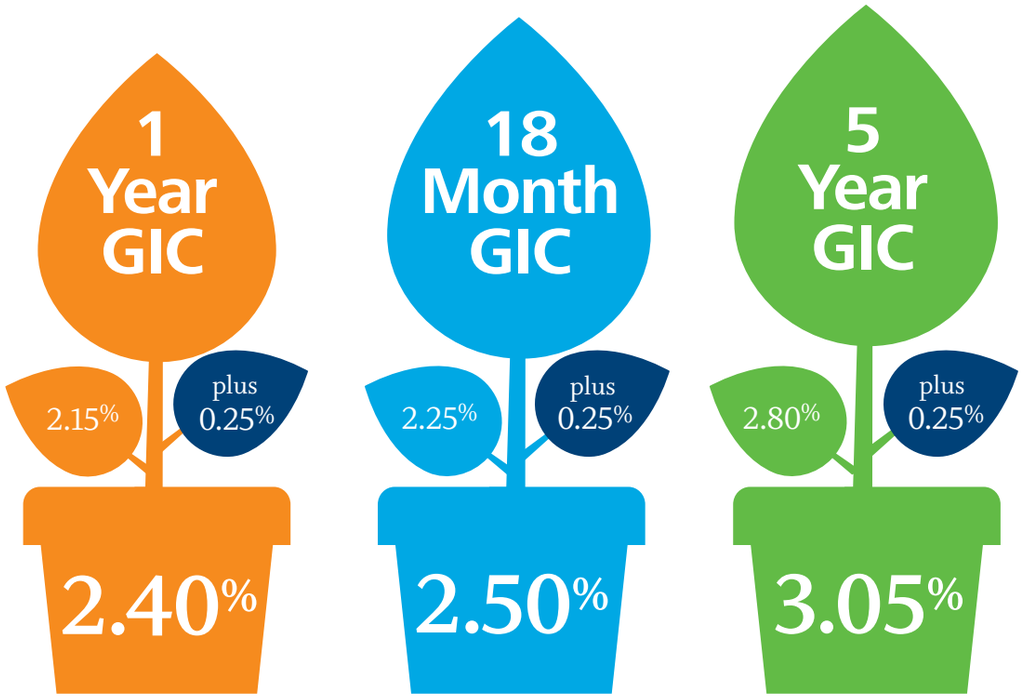

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Property tax cut saves store

Roxborough smoke & Treats. Their rent had been hiked by $600 per month

Donny and Sue Lee have been running the Roxborough Smoke & Treats shop on Yonge Street for 12 years. MARCO CHOWN OVED/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Donny and Sue Lee's mom and pop smoke shop on Yonge Street won't have to shut down.

In April, Torstar News Service published a story highlighting a 350 per cent property tax increase that would have forced them out. Following the article, their landlord successfully appealed the assessment and had it reduced by more than $10 million.

Because of the nature of their lease, those savings will be automatically passed on to the tenants, said Rae Buchan, the real estate adviser who appealed the ruling.

"It's a feel-good success story," he said. "The mom-and-pop store owners don't have to move out after all."

The Lees run Roxborough Smoke & Treats, a small convenience store in a commercial strip mall near Rosedale station.

Their rent had been hiked by $600 per month to cover the new taxes, which had risen to reflect the value of nearby properties sold to developers. But Buchan successfully convinced the Municipal Property Assessment Corporation (MPAC) that taxes should not be calculated as if a tower would be built there and that the property should instead be valued on its current use as a strip mall. MPAC agreed, and reduced the assessment by more than 62 per cent.

But in all the celebration, someone forgot to inform the Lees of the victory.

"I didn't get any information yet," said Donny Lee, when contacted by Torstar News Service. "That's good news! Thank you. Thank you very much."

Following the Star's first article, Lee negotiated a compromise with the landlord, who had wanted to raise his rent from $2,760 to $3,300. The two agreed to meet in the middle for a year until the property tax dispute was resolved, and Lee has been paying $3,000 ever since, he said.

"(The landlord) told me he's going to let me know when they get the results," he said. "But I didn't get it yet."

With the new assessment, Lee calculated that his rent should come down even further. "I'm OK with more than before, but not too much," he said.

Tory pays TTC a visit

Mayor-elect John Tory didn't waste any time digging into the city's high profile transit file.

On Wednesday, two days after being elected to the city's top office, he took the subway for a private chat with TTC CEO Andy Byford.

It was an informal, 45-minute conversation in Byford's office above the Davisville subway, said TTC spokesman Brad Ross.

Byford showed the mayor-elect the TTC's visual management centre — a room where the system's performance stats are displayed and regularly discussed among senior management.

"It was very positive," said Ross. "(Tory) will have a more formal opportunity to hear from Andy on a range of issues in the coming weeks."

Relieving TTC crowding and improving reliability with express buses for transit-hungry neighbourhoods such as Liberty Village, was part of Tory's platform.

The TTC board approved a list of recommendations in August to improve bus and streetcar service, including more express buses.

TTC CEO Andy Byford, left, with TTC spokesman Brad Ross. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Doug Ford irks Tory leadership hopefuls

Queen's Park. Failed mayoral candidate — and possible nominee for Tim Hudak's old job — slammed PC contenders' prospects of defeating Liberals

Doug Ford has ticked off potential rivals for the leadership of Ontario's struggling Progressive Conservatives without even entering the race.

His comment that four MPPs and one MP in the hunt for Tim Hudak's old job aren't up to defeating Premier Kathleen Wynne landed with a thud at Queen's Park.

"I'll stack my winnability up against anybody else's any day," leadership candidate and four-term Nepean-Carleton MPP Lisa MacLeod said Wednesday as the prospect of Ford in the contest gripped politicos.

Liberals privately rub their hands with glee at the idea while Conservatives reel at the thought given his penchant for impolitic remarks and the baggage of his brother Rob's scandals.

Ford, who placed a close second to John Tory for the Toronto mayoralty and is mulling a leadership bid, also earned a rebuke from interim PC Leader Jim Wilson.

He said Ford's negative comments about potential rivals is no way to show an interest in running.

"Certainly the five candidates in the race now are eminently qualified ... I don't agree with his premise at all," Wilson told reporters.

Ford is welcome to take a shot at the leadership "but he shouldn't be disparaging the people in the race now," he added.

Ford said on Tuesday: "I don't think any of the candidates could beat Kathleen Wynne ... They don't attract a certain base in Toronto and the 905 that we would attract."

While Ford dominated parts of Etobicoke and Scarborough, party insiders cautioned that mounting a credible campaign would require a provincewide organization to win support in all regions and broad fundraising appeal.

Also in the race are MPP Christine Elliott, whose late husband Jim Flaherty was a family friend of the Fords, MPP Vic Fedeli and MP Patrick Brown.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Hudak: 'Holy smokes'

Tim Hudak drew the line at offering up his seat in Niagara West-Glanbrook so Doug Ford could run in a byelection to get a seat in the legislature.

- "Holy smokes this progressed pretty fast," he told reporters Wednesday. "What do I think of this, and all of a sudden I'm giving up my seat? No." THE CANADIAN PRESS

Doug Ford arrives at his mother's home Monday to watch the Toronto civic election results. FRANK GUNN/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Medical tourism rakes in cash: Minister

The treatment of so-called medical tourists at a few hospitals in Ontario generates millions of dollars in revenue for the health system and benefits patients in this province, the health minister said Wednesday.

No public money can be used to care for those international patients and any revenue generated — about $13 million per year — must be reinvested to benefit Ontario patients, for example to open new hospital beds or hire nurses, Eric Hoskins said.

"There are clear economic benefits ... but my job is to ensure that Ontarians come first, that there is no queue jumping, that it has no impact on wait times," he said.

The Registered Nurses' Association of Ontario, along with several other health-care organizations, urged Hoskins to ban medical tourism, aside from humanitarian cases, saying the practice promotes queue jumping.

"Ontarians did not make a deal with government of funding the health-care system through their taxes to treat people from abroad that simply get ahead of the line because they have money," said Doris Grinspun, the CEO of the nurses' group.

The Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care is currently reviewing the practice to ensure that Ontario patients are coming first, Hoskins said. Only a small number of hospitals in the province treat medical tourists and the proportion compared to Ontario patients is quite small.

Ninety per cent of the international patients Ontario sees are through the Hospital For Sick Children and University Health Network hospitals in Toronto.

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Health Minister Eric Hoskins
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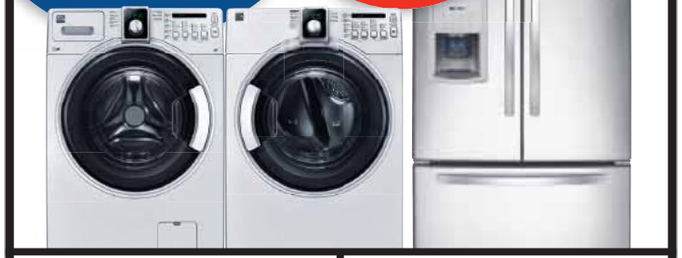

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Punch up ends 'experiment'

Post-Ottawa shooting. YouTube video shines spotlight on people who stand up against anti-Muslim taunts hurled while waiting at Hamilton bus stop

In this screen grab from a York University student's "social experiment" video, the men are identified as, from left, Devin, Omar and Zach. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Its creators call it a "social experiment" spurred by the gunman's shooting rampage at Parliament Hill in Ottawa last week.

But their three-minute video posted to YouTube Monday shines a spotlight on Hamilton and a handful of people who stand up against anti-Muslim taunts hurled at a bus stop outside Jackson Square.

A young man who identifies himself as Devin Giamou spews the racist remarks.

His anti-Muslim vitriol is put on, just acting for the experiment, but Giamou gets more than a stiff rebuke.

He tells a small clutch of people outside Jackson Square another young man with a beard and in white traditional Muslim dress (who's also an actor for the experiment) shouldn't get on the bus because "he could be armed with explosives."

Giamou's character says: "I don't feel safe so I can't take this bus here," referring to last week's shooting spree, which began with the fatal shot that killed Cpl. Nathan Cirillo of Hamilton.

"I want to take him to another bus. I don't feel safe."

One man immediately pushes back:

"You know, you can't stereotype and judge people by their clothes, or their nationality or anything else, you know what I mean? What happened there, it was incident of fanatics."

A woman pipes up, too:

"It was awful and tragic, but I don't think that's any reason to persecute someone just because what they're wearing."

But Giamou keeps making his case, eventually trying to physically remove his fellow actor. At that point, someone jumps to the Muslim man's defence and slugs Giamou in the face.

After a brief clip that shows him talking to a police officer, Giamou, who has a bloody face, offers this conclusion:

"So the social experiment had a negative ending to it, but it's positive because he stood up for him and I appreciate that, that's good, that's good." **TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE**

Gas utility lobbyists swarm Queen's Park

It was natural gas lobby day at Queen's Park Wednesday, as utility officials swarmed the offices of MPPs and ministers, preaching the need for more pipelines.

Spearheaded by Enbridge and Union Gas, this year the effort enlisted the help of customers to spread the message.

Among them was Mark Wales, president of the Ontario federation of Agriculture. His goal: Natural gas service for every farm in Ontario.

"In Alberta everybody, everywhere has natural gas," Wales said in an interview following a breakfast that kicked off the lobbying effort.

Farmers use energy, and plenty of it, to heat homes, barns and greenhouses, and to dry grain. But now their energy

OFA president Mark Wales
TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

options are limited to electricity, oil and propane.

Natural gas is cheaper than any of the alternatives, he said. A greenhouse operation now dependent on propane could easily save $10,000 a year, he said; a grain dryer could save $20,000; and a house heated with electricity, $1,500.

What's he looking for? Grants and loans to start the massive job of extending lines to rural areas.

The province has already put in place a $200 million loan program and $30 million in grants that can be used to spur new pipeline development.

Mining, municipal and hospital officials also turned up at the breakfast to talk about why they like gas for economic and environmental reasons.

Enbridge and Union officials then fanned out from the breakfast for an all-day lobbying blitz. "What we heard today was that we have this great resource in abundance but there seems to be something missing in getting it going," said Enbridge's Jamie Milner.

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Ottawa shooter was a criminal, not a 'terrorist,' Mulcair insists

House starkly divided. Conservatives and Justin Trudeau immediately condemn NDP leader's remarks

The shooter in last week's deadly attack in Ottawa was a criminal, but not a terrorist — according to NDP Leader Tom Mulcair.

"I don't think we have enough evidence to use that word," Mulcair said at the end of an emotional party caucus meeting Wednesday, one week after Michael Zehaf Bibeau opened fire on a soldier and then on security guards just outside the government and Opposition caucus meeting rooms.

"When you look at the history of the individual involved, you see a criminal act, of course," he added.

"But … I think that we're not in the presence of a terrorist act in the sense that we would understand it."

Mulcair's comments were met with immediate condemnation from Conservatives and the leader of the Liberal party.

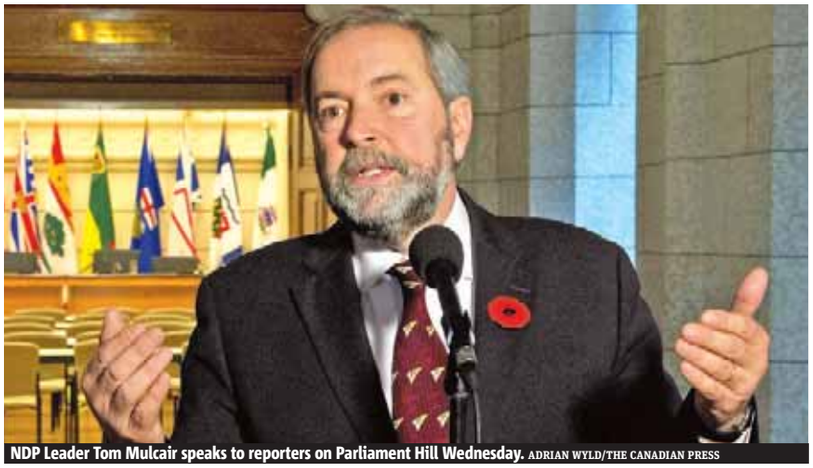
"The RCMP was clear, these were acts of terrorism, (so) these were acts of terrorism," said Justin Trudeau.

"It's ridiculous," added Conservative MP Peter Kent.

"It was clearly an act of terror (based on) his background and motivation."

The remark re-emphasized a stark ideological divide in the House of Commons about how to react to the deaths of two Canadian soldiers last week.

Mulcair said it's obvious that Zehaf Bibeau had mental issues, and that his actions in killing a soldier at the National War Memorial and firing on security on Parliament Hill were reprehensible.



NDP Leader Tom Mulcair speaks to reporters on Parliament Hill Wednesday. ADRIAN WYLD/THE CANADIAN PRESS

But Mulcair said the latest information about the lone shooter indicates he should be defined merely as a criminal.

He later seemingly clarified his comments in the House of Commons, referring to the differences between a criminal act carried out by someone with a history of mental issues and an act of terror carried out by an "organized'' individual or group. THE CANADIAN PRESS

New legislation

Privacy boss urges caution

The Harper government is contemplating new laws in response to the recent attacks that killed two soldiers in broad daylight.

But any new measures should be accompanied by a beefed-up role for the watchdogs who keep an eye on spies and police, Privacy Commissioner Daniel Therrien said Wednesday.

These agencies must be subject to "surveillance and monitoring" by independent third parties so that their activities are undertaken in a lawful manner, Therrien said. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Up creek, with paddle

Robbery suspect flees by canoe

A 20-year-old man was taken into Halifax police custody Wednesday afternoon after a robbery suspect tried to flee from officers — in a canoe.

Police said officers were called to a break and enter and when they arrived the suspect was seen getting away in a red canoe on the Northwest Arm. He came into shore about an hour after the initial call. METRO IN HALIFAX

Ottawa

Scout volunteer gets 5-year term

A former Scouts Canada volunteer in Ottawa who pleaded guilty to sexually assaulting four boys has been sentenced to five years in prison.

Scott Stanley, 31, admitted to luring, then molesting and physically abusing the teens starting in the summer of 2012. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Protester versus pipeline

An RCMP officer talks to a protester who identified himself as George Khossi as he lies under a vehicle being used by surveyors working on the proposed $5-billion Trans Mountain Pipeline expansion project in Burnaby, B.C., on Wednesday. DARRYL DYCK/THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Plea to delay autopsies of locker infants

Andrea Giesbrecht. Accused's lawyer asks for an independent pathologist to oversee all examinations

The lawyer for a woman accused of hiding the remains of six infants in a storage locker is asking the court to delay autopsies even though they are "90 per cent" complete.

Greg Brodsky, who represents Andrea Giesbrecht, says the autopsies shouldn't go ahead without an independent pathologist present.

Giesbrecht, 40, sat occasionally biting her nails and pursing her lips as Brodsky told an emergency hearing Wednesday that the independent pathologist would observe the examination "with his hands in his pockets and Velcro on his mouth."

Request

"I don't want any further autopsies until this court has ruled."

Andrea Giesbrecht's lawyer Greg Brodsky

"I'm saying for the 155th time, all I want is a pathologist who is competent and accredited to ... observe the autopsies," Brodsky told Judge Brian Corrin as police continued to search Giesbrecht's Winnipeg home.

"I don't want any further autopsy to be done until this court has ruled," Brodsky added.

The hearing was eventually adjourned until Friday.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

A staff member passes the lockers where the remains were found. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Funding bid. Stem cell coalition keen to cement Canada as field leader

A coalition of Canadian stem cell advocates, researchers and charities is calling for $1.5 billion in private and public funding for stem cell therapy over the next 10 years.

The organization's action plan is aimed at cementing Canada's reputation as a stem cell leader, one that uses stem cell science to reduce suffering and death from cardiovascular diseases, cancer, diabetes, vision loss, spinal cord injuries and other conditions.

James Price, the president and CEO of the Canadian Stem Cell Foundation, says the action plan could help millions of people with new, life-changing therapies.

Canadian Stem Cell foundation CEO James Price THE CANADIAN PRESS/HO, CSCF

In numbers

12,000

Estimated amount of jobs that could be created if the stem cell coalition receives the $1.5 billion it is calling for.

The action plan's call for funding includes $50 million scaled annual average commitment by the federal government.

The Centre for Commercialization of Regenerative Medicine estimates the action plan could also create more than 12,000 jobs due to the growth of existing companies and the development of new enterprises aimed at global markets.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Workers scrape off a publicity photo of Jian Ghomeshi in the broadcasting corporation's Toronto offices on Monday, a day after the CBC announced it had cut ties to the popular former CBC radio host. CHRIS YOUNG/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Private life can get you fired: Experts

Jian Ghomeshi case. Doing something that brings an employer's brand into public disrepute is enough, legal experts say

Very few employees risk getting fired for activities that occur on their own time, employment experts say.

But it can and does happen. It depends to what extent that employee's personal activities adversely affect the workplace or the employer's public image, legal experts said.

"Anyone in a position that impacts on an employer's brand, who behaves in a way that's inconsistent with the brand, can be dismissed without severance. Even in a unionized environment," said Toronto lawyer Howard Levitt, of Levitt and Grossman LLP.

The issue of employers' rights has become a hot topic since the CBC fired high-profile radio host Jian Ghomeshi on Sunday. The broadcaster said "information" came to its attention "recently that precludes us from continuing our relationship with Jian Ghomeshi."

Ghomeshi stated on his Facebook page that he was fired because of the risk "of my private sex life being made public as a result of a campaign of false allegations pursued by a jilted ex girlfriend and a freelance writer."

He said it is not unusual for him to engage in "adventurous forms of sex that included role-play, dominance and submission." However, he said it has always been consensual.

Ghomeshi is also suing the CBC for $55 million on the grounds of breach of confidence and defamation.

In a unionized environment, such as the CBC, employees can usually only be fired for "just cause," in other words failure to perform their duties, experts said.

But even in a unionized workplace, an employee can get fired if they do something on their own time that brings the employer's brand into public disrepute, legal experts say.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Indonesia close to laying charges against Canadian teacher: Family

Family members say the case against a former Calgary private school teacher detained in Indonesia for more than three months, has been turned over to a prosecutor and charges are expected to be laid by week's end.

Neil Bantleman, who taught at Calgary's Webber Academy for a decade, was arrested July 14 after claims of sexual assault arose from kindergarten-aged students at Jakarta International School.

Bantleman and his wife, Tracy, teach at the school.

He's been held in a Jakarta jail along with another teacher, but thousands have rallied around the pair and say no evidence has been presented to suggest they're guilty.

Metro spoke exclusively with Bantleman in a message interview from his cell earlier this month.

Much like his wife and JIS headmaster have in past interviews, Bantleman likened his case to the 1980s McMartin preschool trial in California in which one parent's allegations of abuse prompted mass hysteria, with claims that hundreds of kids attending the preschool had been victimized and subjected to satanic rituals.

"For those doubting my innocence, there really is nothing to say," he said at the time.

"Anyone familiar with the McMartin case and has read about the details of this case and doesn't believe we are innocent, then there is nothing that will convince them otherwise."

JEREMY NOLAIS/METRO IN CALGARY

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At least 150 people missing, feared dead after mudslide

Sri Lankan monsoon. At least six people have been confirmed dead, with 120 tea plantation workers' homes wiped out

Sri Lankan men stand at the site of a mudslide at the Koslanda tea plantation in the Badulla district, about 220 kilometres east of Colombo, on Wednesday. At least six are dead, and 150 missing. ERANGA JAYAWARDENA/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

A mudslide triggered by monsoon rains buried scores of workers' houses at a tea plantation in central Sri Lanka on Wednesday, raising fears that hundreds have been killed.

In the chaos that followed, there was confusion about the number of dead and missing because government officials reported different figures and later reduced the number of missing by 100.

The mudslide struck at about 7:30 a.m. and wiped out 120 workers' homes at the Koslanda tea plantation, said Lal Sarath Kumara, an official from the Disaster Management Centre. The plantation is in the town of Koslanda in Badulla district, 220 kilometres east of Colombo.

He said at least 10 people were killed and more than 250 reported missing.

Later, Disaster Management Minister Mahinda Amaraweera told media that more than 100 people had been killed. Moments later he told The Associated Press that fewer than 100 people were missing, but they could not be counted as dead.

By late Wednesday the Disaster Management Centre confirmed there were six dead and 150 missing. Pradeep Kodippili, a senior official at the centre, did not explain the changes but said the agency would give the media a clearer picture by Thursday morning.

The scene of the mudslide and witness accounts however suggested the disaster was enormous.

P. Arumugam, who works as a driver on the plantation, said he rushed there when he heard about the mudslide.

"Everything that I saw yesterday I could not see today — buildings, the temple and shops had all disappeared. I could only see mud," he said.

State broadcaster Rupavahini showed huge mounds of earth covering the houses and muddy water still gushing from the hilltops.

Scores of children who had left for school early in the morning returned only to see their homes vanished without a trace along with their parents.

About 500 military personnel and civilians searched for survivors with the help of heavy earth-moving equipment. The search was later called off for the night because of rain and muddy conditions, military spokesman Brigadier Jayanath Jayawerera said.

Monsoon season in the Indian Ocean island nation runs from October through December. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Kilauea. Rainfall tempers smoke, does little to stop volcano's lava flow

Rain fell Wednesday on a red-hot river of lava creeping closer to homes and a main road in a rural Big Island town.

The precipitation wasn't enough to stem the flow, but it helped tamp down smoke pouring from the crackling molten stream consuming everything in its path, officials said.

The lava was about 255 metres from Pahoa Village Road, which leads through the community of Pahoa's downtown, Hawaii County Civil Defence officials said Wednesday. It had advanced about 82 metres since the previous day.

Pahoa is the commercial centre of the island's sprawling, mostly agricultural Puna district, south of Hilo.

The flow from Kilauea volcano entered private property there Tuesday and destroyed an empty shed. It also burned tires and other materials, prompting authorities to warn downwind residents with respiratory problems to stay indoors.

The lava flow emerged from a vent in June and until recently had been slowly weaving through uninhabited forest.

Officials say dozens of homes, businesses and other structures are now in its projected path. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

A flow of lava pushes through a fence marking a property boundary above the town of Pahoa, Hawaii on Tuesday. U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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An extra $46 per Canadian could help cut homelessness

Annual report.
Lead author argues with a budget surplus, some of that money should go to fight homelessness in Canada

Spending an extra $46 per Canadian a year on affordable housing could dramatically reduce homelessness, a new research report concludes.

Existing intervention programs can only go so far if those who find a way off the streets or out of shelters can't afford their own place to live, say researchers from York University and the Canadian Alliance to End Homelessness.

Their annual State of Homelessness in Canada study was published Wednesday. With a budget surplus on the horizon, it's time to return to the days when federal cash was directly spent on building those places, said Stephen Gaetz, the director of the Canadian Observatory on Homelessness at York and one of the lead authors of the study.

"It's time to have a conversation — what are we going to do with that surplus?" he said.

"This is one that isn't going to break the bank. It's going to help not only end chronic homelessness but it's going to help many, many, many thousands of Canadians who are at risk of homelessness."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Ferrari peels off on own

A technician works on an engine at the Ferrari plant in Italy in 2013. Fiat Chrysler Automobiles plans to spin off sports car maker Ferrari into a separate company, a way to unlock value in the luxury brand and distinguish it from its mass-market automaker parent. The company said Wednesday that spinning off Ferrari was part of a plan to raise capital to support the newly merged carmakers' expansion plans. MARCO VASINI/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS FILE

Market Minute

DOLLAR 89.36¢ (-0.16¢)

TSX 14,527.57 (-96.68)

OIL $82.20 US (+$0.78)

GOLD $1,224.90 US (-$4.50)

Natural gas: $3.80 US (+$0.01)
Dow Jones: 16,974.31 (-31.44)

Changes

Lac-Mégantic tragedy leads to new safety rules

The Conservative government has unveiled a new set of rules aimed at improving rail safety in Canada.

The new rules come following the Lac-Mégantic, Que., derailment, which killed 47 people in July 2013.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Controversy bubbling up

SodaStream is moving its West Bank factory

Israeli drink maker SodaStream International Ltd. said Wednesday it will close a West Bank factory that has been targeted by boycott activists and move the facility to a location inside Israel.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Atlantic City casino

Cocktail servers settle lawsuit over skimpy outfits

Forty women employed at an Atlantic City casino have resolved their discrimination lawsuit over skimpy uniforms.

The lawsuit was filed in 2011 after Resorts Casino Hotel adopted a roaring '20s theme after the popularity of the HBO series Boardwalk Empire, which was based on Prohibition-era Atlantic City's reputation as the vice capital of the East Coast.

The uniforms were short, skin-revealing black dresses with deep open backs. Waitresses also wore fishnet stockings and ornate Jazz Age hats.

Older servers claimed they were told they had to audition for their jobs in the new skimpy flapper costumes.

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COSTUMES: POMPEII OK, PISTORIUS NO WAY

HE SAYS
John Mazerolle
metronews.ca

Ladies and gentleman, start your Twitters! It's Halloween season, which means it's time to be morally outraged by dumb people dressing up offensively.

I've been flexing my thumbs in preparation.

Every year people dress up as their favourite atrocities, racial stereotypes and "sexy" whatevers, showing that the really scary thing about Halloween is the deep, dark depths of human obliviousness. A great Halloween costume is a thing of beauty, but many people make it clear we should have left the holiday to the kids. As a public service to mouthbreathers, here's a quick list of things you shouldn't do if you want to avoid becoming a social-media sensation.

1. DO NOT bring sexy back: Every year we're inundated with "sexy" costumes, where "sexy" is roughly equivalent to "cleavage" and/or "inappropriately cold for late October." There's nothing wrong with that, but it's a bit lazy and played out. At least stick with things where "sexy" makes sense (cats, cops, humour columnists).

Too many costumes are just random nouns with "sexy" in front of it, like the "sexy hockey fan" costume (making the rounds on Twitter, natch), which is just a tight costume, a purse and the words "Puck U" on the front. Erotic! Please, let's save the bunnies for Easter. And, of course, don't sexualize your kids' costumes. There's a "girl's" firefighter costume in the news this year that replaced the helmet and uniform with a fascinator and a skirt. Put gender roles aside for a second: We are raising a generation of terrible firefighters. You may roll your eyes at political correctness now, but wait until they show up at your burning house 20 years from now with a handbag instead of a hose.

2. DO NOT dress as bad news. I can pretty much guarantee one Twitter outrage this year: Someone, somewhere, is going to dress as Oscar Pistorius. I'm certain mostly because it perfectly hits the Venn diagram of being a sensitive issue on four fronts: race, gender, gun use, and disability. What a perfect convergence for some guy to smash through in one swift movement because he thought of a "hilarious" idea while posting to #Gamergate. I hate him preemptively.

If you feel the need to dress as bad news, you have two options: fictional bad news (HAL 9000!) or bad news so old that nobody alive has any relatives who died in it. Pompeii it up.

3. DO NOT dress as any culture or race but your own: It's become an annual tradition to wait in anticipation for an NHL player to reveal himself in blackface, followed by the ceremonial cry of "What's the big deal?", followed by the communal sharing of the explanatory Wikipedia links. Soothing and reassuring, really.

Here's a helpful hint: If you're thinking, "Hmmm ... something in the way of cultural appropriation this year," why not try your own culture? As a white, middle-class, middle-age male, I'm considering "Guy Who Likes Pumpkin Spice Lattes" or "Guy Who Doesn't Own a Television."

For a woman it's almost the same. Just add a fascinator. Retweet if you agree!

Metro Bitstrips caption contest

Today's winner: Marcus Stewart

Become a cartoon star!

Visit metro.bitstrips.com on your mobile device to create an avatar and add your caption to the next comic. The funniest entry will be printed here . Check out today's runners-up by scanning the cartoon with your Metro News app.

MetroTube

If you missed National Cat Day ...

ANDREW FIFIELD
andrew.fifield@metronews.ca

SCREENGRAB

National Cat Day is a seemingly weekly event that provides Twitter users with a novel opportunity to share pictures of their felines online. Kevin Richardson is a man who knows his way around a cat, particularly the lions of South Africa. And while National Cat Day has passed, it seems as good an excuse as any to show the amazing GoPro footage captured when he strapped one to the back of a lioness. Warning to the sensitive: Eventually the cat finds some prey, and things don't go well for it at all.(GoPro/YouTube)

Letters

RE: Jian Ghomeshi Case Highlights Why Some Women Don't Report Assaults: Column, published online Oct. 27. 2014 I would like to commend Ruth Davenport on her column pertaining to the Ghomeshi debacle. She conveyed the sentiments of many women, but also of many men, like myself, who are offended by the systematic abuse of both men and women (but mainly women) under the guise of consenting personal sexual preferences. The CBC has an image/brand to protect and if it is made public that anyone in their employ acts in a manner that is contrary to that image/brand then I feel they pretty much have the right to dismiss (them). More importantly, women (or men) that have suffered abuse should be encouraged by our law enforcement to come forward and testify and not subjected to the negative attitudes that currently prevail. Victims should be protected. **Steve Reeve, Toronto**

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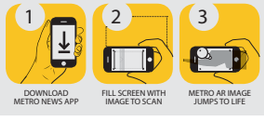

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Relive the odyssey from tepid reaction to silver screen gem

2001: A Space Odyssey. The movie will be celebrated with a massive TIFF Bell Lightbox retrospective

BACKSTAGE PASS
Ian Gormely
scene@metronews.ca

TIFF Bell Lightbox will celebrate 2001: A Space Odyssey with a retrospective. CONTRIBUTED

Today it's heralded as one of cinema's crowning achievements. But when Stanley Kubrick's 2001: A Space Odyssey was first released in 1968, it received a much more tepid reaction.

"People walked out in droves," recalls the film's star Keir Dullea. "Rock Hudson said, 'What the f— is this all about?' and walked out of the premiere. He was not alone."

That reaction wasn't unusual for Kubrick's films. After first coming to prominence with critical and popular hits like Paths of Glory and Spartacus, the late director broke new ground with each release.

The TIFF Bell Lightbox is celebrating those achievements with a massive Kubrick retrospective — including a 2001 screening with Dullea and co-star Gary Lockwood on Saturday — but contemporary critics and audiences weren't always so open-minded.

"It was a riddle to Stanley," says Jan Harlan, Kubrick's longtime producer. "(He) wanted to satisfy the larger part of the audience."

Despite a career that spanned 45 years, Kubrick was not prolific.

Between 1971 and his death in 1999, he made just five films. Even after two years of work prepping a film about Napoleon, he was still unable to realize his vision.

"He needed to be happy with his films," explains his widow, Christiane Kubrick. "This can be rather difficult for a very demanding and self-critical person."

He was notoriously meticulous, sometimes spending years on pre-production, but it was all part of his creative process.

"He could become frustrated when things didn't go his way," admits Christiane.

But he felt rushing the process was the wrong answer. "He had a big family and a happy life and had no interest in just turning out movies."

After all, says Harlan, the results speak for themselves. "Fifty years from now, people will watch his films."

THE RETROSPECTIVE STANLEY KUBRICK: A CINEMATIC ODYSSEY STARTS TOMORROW AT THE TIFF BELL LIGHTBOX. SEE TIFF.NET FOR SCREENING TIMES AND DETAILS.

Horror fans unite

For those looking for more visceral thrills this Halloween weekend, look no further than Horror-Rama. The two-day scare-fest, held at 99 Sudbury, has a host of events for horror fans. For a full list of events, go to the website horrorramacanada.com

- Saturday night screening of giallo thriller Suspiria at the Revue Cinema with an appearance from cast member Barbara Magnolfi
- Saturday night you can attend a costume contest at 3030 Dundas St. W.
- Screenings of future horror classics Avenged and the Devil's Incarnate.
- Appearance from Tim Burton muse Lisa Marie.

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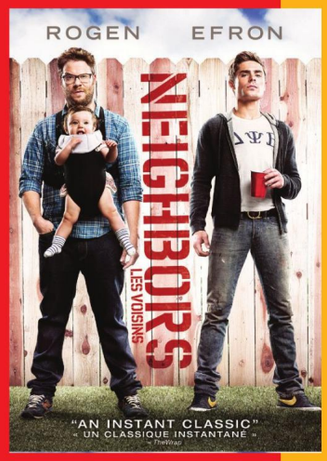

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Cast of Parenthood hopes for second life

End of series. NBC show likely won't see another season, but at least the cast will have great memories

Monica Potter says that the cast of Parenthood is like a "real family" and they're going to miss each other at the end of this season. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Monica Potter is like most fans of NBC's Parenthood — she's in denial that the show is in its final season.

"I actually was talking to Jason Katims, our producer, creator about this," Potter said in a recent interview. "I'm like, 'What about Netflix? What about Amazon? What about Hulu?' But I honestly think this is the last season."

To bring the series back for this sixth season, cast members (including Craig T. Nelson, Peter Krause, Lauren Graham and Dax Shepard) agreed to reduce their appearances to save money.

"We didn't want to just end it," she said. "It's such a fun show. We're all like a real family. We're gonna miss each other. It's not just a cast either, it's the crew. It's everybody. And we all have this sort of shorthand with each other."

Parenthood, which airs Thursdays at 10 p.m. on Global, follows the Bravermans, a large family living in the Berkley, Calif., area.

Potter, 43, says she remembers clicking with the other actors and crew while filming the pilot. "It was just like I fell in love with all these people right away, and it's a great family. Craig T. Nelson," she sighs, "I adore that man."

Potter said Nelson, who plays her father-in-law, reminds her of her father, who died in 2004.

"He favours my dad. He looks like my dad. His mannerisms, his voice sometimes, he's weird. He's really funny, he's sensitive. Supersmart, and he's kind and a genius ... I'm trying to get to work with him on my next show," she laughed.

Potter has a development deal with NBC. She's hoping to do a sitcom "like Parenthood, but a half-hour and a little bit lighter."

When she's not busy filming the show, Potter travels to Cleveland, where she's renovating her childhood home. She's also started a business with her sisters to make handcrafted seasonal items such as travel kits and room sprays, and she's hoping to create jobs in the community.

That interest stems from her love of DIY projects, which she "would make in my dining room, my lab, much to my husband's dismay."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Italian actor Lorenzo Richelmy plays the travelling merchant in the title role of Marco Polo. NETFLIX

Streaming. Netflix gets adventurous with Marco Polo

Netflix has begun promoting its latest original series, an action and adventure drama slated to premiere worldwide on Friday, Dec. 12. A new video reveals the first scenes from Marco Polo's adventures in the court of the Mongol emperor Kublai Khan.

After House of Cards, Orange Is the New Black and Hemlock Grove, Netflix has shifted its focus to action, adventure and history with Marco Polo. Set in the 13th century, the 10 episodes are a fictionalized take on the Venetian merchant's adventures in the court of Kublai Khan, the grandson of Genghis Khan and future emperor of China. Political betrayals, forbidden romance and martial arts battles are all in store.

Italian actor Lorenzo Richelmy stars as Marco Polo opposite actress Zhu Zhu (Cloud Atlas) as the woman who captures his heart. Joan Chen, Remy Hii, Olivia Cheng, Claudia Kim, Uli Latukefu, Chin Han and Tom Wu round out the cast.

Created by John Fusco (Hidalgo), the drama is produced by The Weinstein Company. The episodes are directed by Joachim Ronning and Espen Sandberg, the duo behind Kon-Tiki and the next movie in the Pirates of the Caribbean franchise.

The entire first season of Marco Polo will arrive on Netflix December 12 in all of the countries where the platform is available. AFP

Television

Warner working on Superman origin series

The new Fox series Gotham seems to have inspired producers at Warner. According to Bleedingcool.com, the studio is developing a Superman series entitled Krypton. After watching Batman's origin story unfold on Fox's Gotham, superhero fans may soon get a show on Superman's early years. Judging by its title, Krypton will likely be set on the DC character's home planet. AFP

Music

Science backs belief that pop stars die young

A new Australian study has added scholarly credibility to the adage that pop stars live fast and die young, finding U.S. musicians die up to 25 years earlier than the general population. "This is clear evidence that all is not well in pop music land," said the University of Sydney's Dianna Kenny, who analyzed the deaths of 12,665 mostly male U.S. musicians between 1950 and 2014. The psychology and music professor found that pop stars' accidental death rates were between five and 10 times greater than the general U.S. population, while suicide rates were between two and seven times higher. AFP

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At 40, Hello Kitty is still just a girl

Pop culture. Everything you need to know about Hello Kitty, who's got a milestone birthday Nov. 1

Hello Kitty didn't need a backstory — or even a mouth — to become a global phenomenon. Her image can be found on just about anything, from the predictable plush toys and lunch boxes to the not-so-predictable: surfboards, motor oil, an air purifier, kitchen gadgets, jewelry, light bulbs and toilet paper.

"You could be born in a Hello Kitty maternity ward," said Dave Marchi, a spokesman for Sanrio, the Japanese company that created Hello Kitty in 1974. Here's what you need to know about the famous character, who turns 40 on Nov. 1.

Is she a cat or not?
People reacted with shock when news emerged over the summer that Hello Kitty is not a cat, but it's really not so simple. "Sanrio does not reference her as a cat in the traditional sense: She doesn't meow, she doesn't drink milk from a bowl, she doesn't eat cat food," Marchi said. "It all comes down to how you want to describe this anthropomorphized figure. Obviously she looks like a cat. Some people want to think of her and describe her as a cat. But we at Sanrio always reference her as a little girl." He compared Hello Kitty to Mickey Mouse, a mouse that wears shorts, shoes and gloves.

Does Hello Kitty have a backstory?
According to the SanrioTown website, yes. Her full name is Kitty White. She lives in London, has a twin sister named Mimmy and a pet cat called Charmmy Kitty. She is about five apples tall. Her favourite colour is red, and she enjoys playing piano and baking cookies.

Why is Hello Kitty so popular?
Branding expert Dorie Clark says Hello Kitty's simple, mouthless design lends to her broad appeal. "She's stoic, she's expressionless, and people can put onto her almost any kind of emotion," she said. "She can mean almost anything to anyone."

There's also the nostalgia factor, as the character turns 40. "There's an audience of people who grew up with her ... who look back on her as a warm and familiar reminder of their childhood."

Does she belong to a larger cultural phenomenon?
She is part of the Japanese culture of cuteness known as kawaii, also seen in characters such as Pikachu. "It's something clever and creative, which contributes to a certain cool factor," anthropology professor Christine R. Yano, author of Pink Globalization: Hello Kitty's Trek Across the Pacific, recently told the Los Angeles Times.

"For example, take Precious Moments (collectibles). That's cute. But there's nothing cool about Precious Moments. Hello Kitty has the potential to be so many other things."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Lady Gaga wears the Hello Kitty x Lady Gaga Plush Dress in this file photo. The first Hello Kitty Con, a four-day festival of all things Kitty held in honour of the character's 40th birthday, opens Oct. 30 in Los Angeles. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS FILE

Quoted

"Obviously she looks like a cat. Some people want to think of her and describe her as a cat. But we at Sanrio always reference her as a little girl."

Dave Marchi, spokesman for Sanrio, the company behind Hello Kitty

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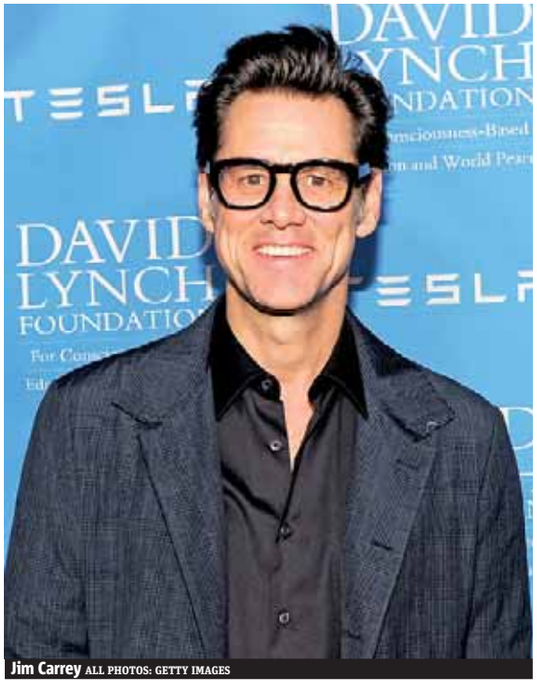


Jim Carrey ALL PHOTOS: GETTY IMAGES

Carrey isn't the type to marry ... for a third time

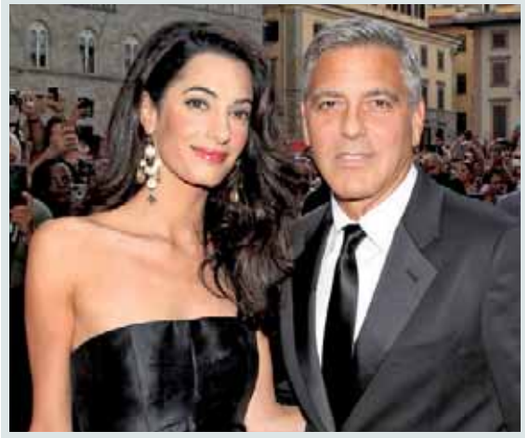
Jim Carrey is no longer the marrying kind, apparently. "I just don't see it as necessary at this point," the twice-divorced 52-year-old grandfather tells Howard Stern during an interview. "Is it really sacred? I don't know."

Deep, probing questions, to be sure. But more telling seems to be what years of fame seem to have done to Carrey's outlook on romance in general: "If you hook up with someone who is famous, you become a sellable commodity and that's the most important thing in those magazines," he says.

"It's not what you're doing in the movie. It's who you are with, what are you doing, are you breaking up?"

And I'm sure that after hearing such a good point about the whole business, Stern immediately abstained from asking any further questions about Carrey's personal life.

The Word



Clooney party inconveniences commoners

NED EHRBAR
Metro in Hollywood

It turns out that entertaining George Clooney and Amal Alamuddin can be bad for business. A recent soiree thrown by the newlyweds at the Danesfield House hotel in Buckinghamshire, England, left other guests feeling a bit overlooked. Clooney's fabulous, swanky affair apparently necessitated renting out half the hotel's rooms.

One guest posted to TripAdvisor, "Booked afternoon tea two months in advance for very special occasion for family, never got to go as was canceled one week beforehand due to exclusive event taking over the hotel. ... Won't book with them again."

Sounds like something out of Downton Abbey, honestly.

Twitter

@GarryShandling
I don't normally believe in curses but the Lakers should get a shaman in there as fast as possible.

@therealroseanne
obama was put in office by banksters who wanted to make sure that the president after him would be Jeb Bush.

@billyeichner
I know you guys want to be sexy AND topical but PLEASE don't dress up as Slutty ISIS this weekend.

Katie Holmes

Don't put Katie in the Cruise corner

Katie Holmes does not want to be defined by her divorce from Tom Cruise, you guys, so stop asking about it. "I don't want that moment in my life to define me, to be who I am. I don't want that to be what I'm known as," she tells People magazine. In fact, that's just the beginning of Holmes' batch of don'ts. "I don't have any fear now, I don't have a lot of rules for myself and I don't take myself that seriously." But what do you do, Katie? Aside from humour People magazine when they ask about the divorce you've made it clear you don't want to talk about? Although I can see that takes up a lot of your time.

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LIFE 3

PLUS HOMES

Wang throws down the new urban uniform for H&M

Style. The designer's take on day-to-night dressing includes a stop at the gym

A quick scan of the crowd gathered for Alexander Wang's H&M debut revealed the fashion set's new unofficial uniform: sleek black everything and sneakers.

It seems that every editor present ditched her stilettos for the multi-part extravaganza — which included a morning press conference downtown, an evening fashion show way uptown, followed by an after-hours pop-up shop and concert — which was totally fitting.

Wang has championed effortless, off-duty dressing since launching his label in 2004. For Spring '15, the designer drew inspiration from "the phenomenon of sneaker culture." Now his much-hyped H&M collaboration takes on active wear.

"A lot of my friends are gym fanatics and go to SoulCycle," explains Wang about the starting point for his capsule.

The designer, who has a sixth sense for how tastemakers want to dress, stresses that these days sporty clothes aren't just relegated to the gym.

"There's a lot of people like me: I'm not an athlete, I don't work out, but I wear gym clothes almost everyday," he says.

Further proving his point that fashion-inspired fitness is a thing, Beyoncé recently announced a new partnership with TopShop to produce an athletic streetwear label.

"People have such active lifestyles that they want to be comfortable. They want to be able to move and take the subway and run around," says Wang.

If there's anyone who understands our fast-paced lives, full of multitasking and meals on the go, it's Wang. In addition to designing his eponymous multi-million dollar brand, the 30-year-old was named creative director of Balenciaga in 2012. And somewhere in the mix he managed to create this collection for the Swedish fast-fashion retailer — which, he stressed, isn't a lower-priced version of his greatest hits. These designs are brand new.

"For me I always try to push forward and discover a new conversation that I haven't necessarily done before, while staying very true to the approach of ease, the approach of being unpretentious, the approach of being comfortable," he says.

Sporty clothing fits the requirements. Specifically, says Wang, "the idea of sports at night." Anyone who's attended a Wang after-party knows that the designer prefers to burn his calories on the dance floor.

Cutout scuba dresses, tech-inspired leggings and quick-drying crop tops work just as well at the club as they would at, say, Equinox. The technical construction behind athletic wear was another draw for Wang.

"I'm not trying to reinvent the wheel," says the designer. "I love fashion; it's fun, and I think it should be celebrated."

METRO

Alexander Wang's line for H&M hits stores Nov. 6 CONTRIBUTED

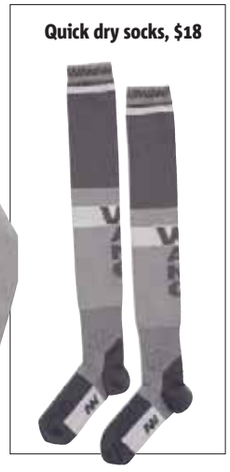
He wears it well

"This line is so close to my process and how I live that it felt very authentic to my lifestyle."

Alexander Wang

Our favourite looks from Alexander Wang x H&M

Hoodie, $69.95


Quick dry socks, $18

Leggings, $59.99

Down jacket, $349

Sweatshirt, $59.99

Breathable dry dress, $99

Canadian street style

Spotted in: Toronto

Name: Alex

Age: 23

Occupation: Architect associate

What she's wearing
Steve Madden shoes, Zara skirt, Urban Outfitters top, Vintage coat, Pure Italian leather purse.

Her inspiration
"You'd be surprised, but I like minimalism when it comes to style."

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Trends Report

Need some last minute do-it-yourself Halloween-inspired looks? Go online to Trends Report to find out how you can get into the Halloween spirit without having to put on a costume.

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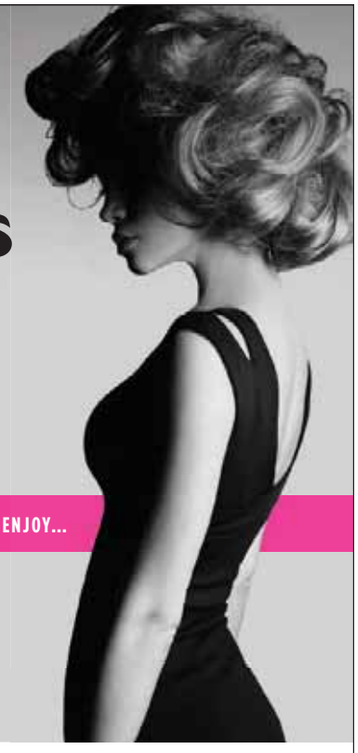

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Legal Matters

New condos and HST

I have an existing home that is our primary residence. I am planning to buy a condo for my daughter to live and attend university. Am I eligible for the HST rebate? If so, does the law require that the condo be self-occupied for a certain number of years after the closing? You did mention in your column about the CRA audit. What type of documentation proof is usually required to satisfy the CRA, should there be an audit?

LEGAL MATTERS
Jeffrey Cowan
home@metronews.ca

HST is only applicable if the condo is a new build. If you are purchasing a resale condo, there is no applicable HST. However, if it is a brand new building, then you or one of your close family members (children, siblings and parents) must take residency in order to be eligible for the HST rebate. Typically, you must reside there for at least one year.

The proof of your residency consists of the normal indicators that you use when you move to a new home: change of driver's licence address, filing of your taxes from that address (a particularly easy one for CRA to check), bills and invoices sent to the address. The information on this with CRA states that you should save everything for a period of six years if there is ever an audit and they want proof of residency.

Follow Jeff Cowan on Twitter @Cowan_Law or on the website cowanlaw.ca, or email him at jeff@cowanlaw.ca.

Take long view to condo investment

Best strategies. Real estate agent offers his top tips to build wealth investing in condos

CONDO TRENDS
Duncan McAllister
life@metronews.ca

Toronto is North America's largest condominium development hub. With all this activity, how can the average person make money by investing in condos?

Real estate guru Alex J. Wilson tells Metro how you can do it by following a few important investment rules.

Wilson recently presented an informative real estate investment seminar at the new Riverside Square condominium presentation centre. Wilson is the team lead at alexjwilson.com and a Re/Max hall of fame sales representative.

Wilson takes a long-term approach to condo investing. "Real estate doesn't go anywhere," he says. "It's always there."

Condo investors can realize a profit by purchasing suites from floor plans at a discounted price during the pre-construction phase.

Investors should look for condos that offer easily accessible transit, convenience and community. CONTRIBUTED

When completed, the units can be rented out to help pay down the mortgage.

"Over 30 years, you have this asset that is completely paid off." says Wilson.

Wilson stresses that there are no get-rich-quick schemes and to treat condo investment as a long-term strategy.

"The idea of flipping is something of the past. The real way to build wealth in real estate is to buy and hold. You continue to buy and continue to invest in property and that is the best strategy to financial independence and to help build generational wealth."

Quoted

"The idea of flipping is something of the past. The real way to build wealth in real estate is to buy and hold."

Real estate agent Alex J. Wilson

The three basics rules of condo investments

Real estate sales rep Alex J. Wilson's three basic rules are sound advice for would-be investors.

- **Transit.** "You have to make sure it's a transit-accessible area." An isolated condo project is a detractor for you and your tenants, especially with Toronto's notorious traffic congestion. "People today measure their time in minutes instead of miles, so it's all about making sure that people can get to work nice and easy and that's why they're choosing the condo lifestyle."
- **Convenience.** "You want to be buying somewhere where there's a community," says Wilson. "Where there's a convenience that you can walk out of your property and you have your grocery store, restaurants, pharmacies and things of that nature, where you can go out and it's easy and convenient."
- **Finances.** "When you're looking at a project, make sure that the numbers make sense. Look at today's pricing and current rental models and see if you're going to be able to carry that property if you choose to rent it out." According to Wilson, the overall rental demand in Toronto is 1.8 per cent. "So we're still in a strong rental market where we're not dealing with any situation of oversupply."

Collaboration

Partners in city building

BRYAN TUCKEY
President and CEO of the Building Industry and Land Development Association (BILD) can be found at twitter.com/bildgta, facebook.com/bildgta, and bildblogs.ca.

As partners in city building, our association's objective is to work collaboratively with our leaders in government to build quality, complete communities in cities across the GTA.

This week's election introduced our members and staff to a new team of municipal partners while welcoming back some familiar faces. On behalf of our 1,400 member companies, I would like to congratulate all the newly elected regional chairs, mayors and councillors.

An election gives BILD representatives the opportunity to meet with Toronto and GTA candidates as we continue to advocate for new-home buyers across the region.

We've spoken about housing choice, the economic importance of our industry, the significance of the OMB and policy objectives around intensification. We also discussed the costs of infrastructure, parkland, Section 37 and transit.

Together with our partners in government, we have been implementing the objectives of the provincial growth plan.

Our members are experts in implementation but we need help from our municipal leaders. We are partners in city building, but we need the tools to make it happen.

I am especially pleased to inform you that BILD chair Steve Upton was named to mayor-elect John Tory's transition team this week. This is a great step toward working collaboratively with our government partners over the next four years.

With many new mayors and councillors, we are enthusiastic about forging new relationships, and building on existing ones as we continue to share our collective vision for creating complete communities throughout the Greater GTA.

What's hot on the condo market

DUNCAN MCALLISTER

1. North York

Preview Opening: Beacon condominium residences at North York City Centre. Visit the sales centre at 5200 Yonge St., in North York on Nov. 1. Doors open at noon. Register to attend.

CONTACT: BEACONCONDOS.CA, BEACONSALES@SORBARAGROUP.COM

2. Mimico

Open house: Eleven Superior condominiums steps from the lake in Mimico. Several suites will be shown. Make your way to the presentation centre at 2398 Lake Shore Blvd. W., on Nov. 1 and 2 from 1 to 4 p.m.

CONTACT: LYNN STILL, 905-822-5000

3. Newmarket

Grand Opening: Daniels Highlands townhomes phase 2, a family-oriented community overlooking the St. Andrews Golf Course. Head out to 804 Shadrach Dr., in Newmarket on Nov. 1 from 12 to 6 p.m.

CONTACT: 905-821-0822, DANIELSHIGHLANDS.COM

4. Richmond Hill

Grand Opening: The official launch of Brushwood townhomes on Bathurst and King Road. Head on up to 13049 Bathurst St., in Richmond Hill on Nov. 1 from 12 to 5 p.m. Register online.

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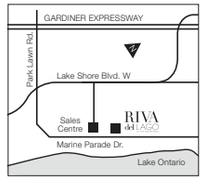

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Furniture. Props to leaning clothes rail that can be taken anywhere

The Untitled Rail KICKSTARTER/MARC SCHULTHESS

It might look like furniture from a slick boutique, but this new clothing rail, which can be left propped up against any wall and disassembled in minutes, could be the next stylish alternative to bulky wardrobes.

Untitled Rail is a flexible option for micro living, featuring a bend which means it can be leaned against a wall for clothes storage that takes up minimal floor space.

The brainchild of French designer Marc Schulthess, the rail is made using the same tube-bending technique employed by modernists such as Le Corbusier.

The steel structure disassembles into four parts and is available in two different sizes of either 40 cm or 82 cm in width.

The idea was to create fashionable, portable storage for an urban generation constantly moving cities or simply travelling.

Currently listed on crowdfunding website Kickstarter, the rail can currently be ordered for pledges of about $160 US or more. It is expected to ship in December. AFP

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#ARAGONFORWARD Aragon Properties Ltd.

Security. Guaranteed 'zombie-proof' cabin unveiled just in time for Halloween

A zombie attack could happen at any time — but with Halloween just around the corner, it's best to be prepared.

Luckily, a U.K. building company has launched the ZFC-1 Zombie Fortification Cabin, a zombie-proof shed offering guaranteed protection against "all forms of possible zombie attacks."

Comprising three sections separated by lockable doors for extra security, the cabin features a garage (for the getaway car), built-in food storage units and a residential area including a living room, kitchen, bedroom, toilet and a gym.

A plasma TV, an Xbox, a fireplace and kitchen units have all been incorporated into the concept.

Additional defence features include decking, which provides a panoramic vantage point for spotting any approaching zombies and extra secure doors and double glazed windows.

The wooden cabin is made from 44 mm-thick timber, with cut logs along the side of the building making it almost impossible for zombies to climb on to the roof. Barbed wire has been added, just in case. Extra features including solar panels and security cameras can also be added to the structure. AFP

The ZFC-1 Zombie Fortification Cabin. TIGERLOGCABIN.COM

Medical evidence required

The brainchild of Tiger Log Cabins, the ZFC-1 can be purchased for a starting price of approximately $113,000 US.

- The cabin comes with a 10-year guarantee — although "medical evidence of the presence of a real zombie" is required.

Appliance. Alternative to kettle lets you drink tea while helping the planet

Miito heating rod. CHUDY AND GRASE

Is your tea habit killing the planet? Overfilling the kettle is something that 65 per cent of Brits admit to — but a handy new alternative could save time, water and energy.

Miito allows you to heat liquid directly in your mug, teapot or saucepan, using only the exact amount of water needed.

Comprising an induction base and a metal heating rod which is placed inside the vessel, the system can be used on a variety of liquids such as soup or milk, and functions via "wireless energy transfer."

An additional advantage is the consequential lack of limestone, resulting in a more hygienic product.

According to the Miito team, one day of energy saved from overfilling kettles would be enough to light all of the streetlights in England for a night.

The brainchild of designer Nils Chudy and his team, the concept made its debut last week at Dutch Design Week. The product is currently in the development stages and is not yet commercially available. AFP

Furniture

3D connector is all you need to build furniture

Keystones by Minale Meada
BIENNALE INTERIEUR

A 3D-printed connector that can be used to create a range of furniture pieces took centre stage at the Biennale Interieur in Belgium this past week.

The brainchild of design studio Minale Meada, Keystones allows furniture to be built with basic materials by holding together its various components, meaning that no joinery skills are required to assemble pieces.

Currently available for tables and coat stands, Keystone's dimensions can be adjusted to fit the size and height of the table and the choice of material.

The furniture elements are clamped into the connector via printed screws that are integrated into the connectors and clamp the material. AFP

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Frank Lloyd Wright inspired building

The Craftsman. CONTRIBUTED

Meet the condo

- **What.** The Craftsman Condominium Residences
- **Builder.** VANDYK Group of Companies
- **Architect.** SMV Architects
- **Designer.** UNION31
- **Location.** 1575 Lakeshore Rd. W., Clarkson
- **Building.** Four-storey building with 299 suites
- **Sizes.** From 605 to 1,750 sq. ft.
- **Pricing.** From $300,000s to over $1 million
- **Suites.** One bedroom, one bedroom plus den, two bedroom, two bedroom plus den, three bedroom.
- **Website.** craftsmancondo.com

The project overview

Inspired by legendary architect Frank Lloyd Wright, this four storey-building with three connected wings and two central courtyards will feature 299 residences. The design, a mixture of stone, brick and glass, brings the nature of the surrounding parklands and waterfront inside the development.

Location and transit

Located on Lakeshore Road West in the forested setting of Birchwood Park. Residents are a half hour to downtown Toronto via the nearby Clarkson GO rail station. Motorists will have easy access to the Queen Elizabeth Way.

Building amenities

The Clarkson Club within the development will be an engaging social gathering spot, featuring flat screen television, games tables and an indoor-outdoor limestone fireplace in the lounge seating area. For private event hosting, there is a fully-equipped catering kitchen and private dining area.

In the neighbourhood

The Craftsman Condominium Residences is steps from the Lake Ontario waterfront, with its yacht clubs, running paths, bike trails and boardwalks. It is also close to restaurants, shopping, bistros and galleries, The Ontario Racquet Club and established golf courses in Mississauga.

Assembling tables from salvaged materials is easy using legs with built-in clamps (inset). THE FLOYD LEG/KICKSTARTER

Bring some thing new to the table: Clamp legs

DIY. Legs with built-in clamps can turn any surface material into a one-of-a-kind table

Furnishing a home that will create a lasting impression can sometimes be difficult to accomplish without the right resources. It's not always easy to find time to browse countless home and furniture stores. With the help of clamp legs, customizing furniture has never been easier.

These innovative table legs are equipped with built-in clamps at the top of each leg. The four legs help support the weight of the surface material while the integrated clamps at the top of each leg help hold everything in place and give it stability. Clamp legs provide endless possibilities for creating personalized tables, stools, and benches.

What you need to know

Clamp legs are all about customizing and creating home furniture. They come in different sizes and a variety of colours to suit individual needs. With built-in clamps, the legs' design makes assembling and disassembling furniture a quick and easy process.

A kitchen table built with clamp legs helps bypass the hassle of getting an awkwardly shaped table into a home. The furniture is also easy to store and pack for those who move around a lot or need to create extra space.

Mix and match materials to make a glass table. THE FLOYD LEG/KICKSTARTER

More salvage ideas

Find out how to salvage other materials around the home with the season premiere of Salvage Dawgs, Tuesdays at 10 p.m. ET/PT on DIY Network Canada.

Gathering materials

First, purchase and prepare the selected surface material. This way, matching the clamp legs to the surface becomes much easier. To select the surface material, visit a hardware store to purchase new sheets of wood that are ready to use or recycle old furniture. Use an old door, various pieces of a dresser, or even the table top of an old desk.

Don't be afraid to incorporate other materials such as plastic, glass, or an old countertop. Mix and match pieces like an old door and a glass top to create an even surface.

Legwork

Give people something to talk about with the many furniture pieces that can be built with the help of clamp legs. One of their greatest benefits is the availability of different sizes. With longer clamp legs and some wood, build a table for the kitchen or the front entrance. Smaller clamp legs are great for a new bedside table or even a coffee table for the living room. But don't stop there: Get creative and build a funky bench or stool perfect for any room.

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Tip me over and pour me out

It's the time of year when hot drinks (spiked or not) become fashionable for entertaining. Forget the single-brew pours — instead, offer up warming bevvies from some of the hottest serving vessels on the market

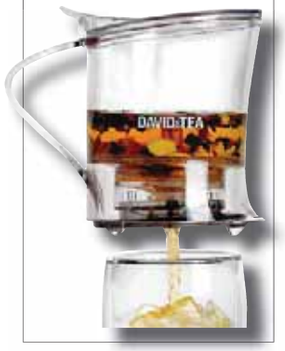
DESIGN CENTRE
Karl Lohnes
home@metronews.ca

Catch red-handled

Coffee and tea service can now travel all around the house when entertaining, thanks to this carafe. Primula Kata Soft Grip 1.5-litre Thermal Carafe, $37, BedBathAndBeyond.ca.

Steep for joy

Pour hot water, let steep and then release into the cup for hot or cold tea — easy as 1-2-3. The 32-ounce Steeper, $30, DavidsTea.ca.



Take to flask

Serve your favourite hot beverage at the game or just on the balcony. Kullar Steel Vacuum Flask, $10, IKEA.com.

Let it drip

Retro drip-coffee style comes right to the dining table in heavy-duty, yet lightweight glass. Hario V60 Range Server, $30, CrateAndBarrel.com.

Hot off the press

Tall and sleek is the best way to brew coffee at the table. La Cafatiere Lexi Bone China Coffee Press, 900ml, $120, TheBay.com.

Come into bloom

Marimekko's famous Unikko fabric brings charm to the table in the form of a Unikko Teapot, $98, EQ3.com.

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Side adds subtle spooky touch

White Asparagus with Blood Orange Sauce.
A Halloween-worthy dinner accompaniment

"If you can't find blood oranges you can use a regular orange, but the flavour won't be quite the same," writes Jennifer McLagan in her book Bitter. "This sauce is an orange butter sauce made exactly the same way you would make a white butter sauce (beurre blanc), but using orange juice instead of wine. The cream is added to make the sauce more stable. Two important things to remember when making this sauce: use a heavy pan that transfers the heat slowly and evenly, and watch carefully as you whisk in the butter. If your sauce overheats, you can let it cool down slightly, add a splash of water, and whisk it back together."

Ingredients

- 12 large fat white asparagus
- 1 blood orange
- 1 tbsp whipping (35 percent fat) cream
- Sea salt and freshly ground black pepper
- 1/2 cup (4 ounces / 115 g) cold unsalted butter

1. Cook the asparagus (place in a pan of boiling water so they are in a single layer. Lower the heat and simmer for 15-25 minutes. You want them cooked, not crunchy).

2. While the asparagus is cooking, finely grate the zest from the orange and then squeeze the juice. Place both the zest and the juice in a small saucepan and bring to a boil over medium high heat. Reduce the heat and boil gently until the mix is reduced to about 2 tablespoons. Stir in the cream and season with salt and pepper.

3. Drain the cooked asparagus and keep warm in a low oven.

4. Cut the butter into 6 pieces. Place the pan with the juice and cream mixture over very low heat and slowly whisk in the butter, thoroughly incorporating each piece before adding another. While you're whisking, keep the sauce warm, but not hot, so that the mixture emulsifies and the butter doesn't melt into the sauce. When all the butter is incorporated, taste, adjust the seasoning, and serve over the cooked asparagus.

This recipe serves four. AYA BRACKETT

RECIPE FROM BITTER © 2014 BY JENNIFER MCLAGAN. PUBLISHED BY HARPERCOLLINS CANADA. ALL RIGHTS RESERVED.

Cookbook of the Week

Bite into the bitter

In some places (think Italy and parts of Asia), bitter flavours are appreciated. In North America, sweet and savoury nab the culinary spotlight. Jennifer McLagan is out to change that with her book Bitter. Through science, culture, history and 100 recipes, McLagan explores bitter bites in all of their aspects. Recipes include Arugula Pizza, Cardoon Beef Tagine, Methi and Spinach with Baked Eggs, Grapefruit Tart and more. METRO

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Raptors guard Kyle Lowry attacks the basket against the Hawks' Al Horford at the Air Canada Centre on Wednesday night. The Raptors, who were playing their first game of the regular season, won 109-102. NATHAN DENETTE/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Raps open season by ravaging Hawks

NBA. Reigning Atlantic Division champs create large cushion and hang on for the win

Season opener

Raptors	Hawks
109	102

Jonas Valanciunas had 17 points to lead the Toronto Raptors to a 109-102 season-opening victory over a pesky Atlanta Hawks squad Wednesday night.

Amir Johnson added 16 points, eclipsing his previous opening-night high of 13 points for Toronto, which improved to 11-9 all-time on opening night and 8-6 when starting the season at home. That delighted the loud, enthusiastic Air Canada Centre sellout crowd of 19,800, many donning the free white We The North T-shirts left on their seats as they arrived.

DeMar DeRozan had 15 points and a career-high 11 rebounds while Terrence Ross added 13 points for Toronto, now 12-8 all-time in home openers.

Toronto's Lou Williams had eight points against his former team. The Raptors acquired Williams and Lucas Noqueira from Atlanta on June 30 for forward John Salmons.

Kyle Korver, Jeff Teague and Mike Scott all had a game-high 20 points for Atlanta.

The Raptors are coming off a club-record 48 wins last year that earned them their first playoff appearance since 2008. But Toronto's promising season ended with a heart-breaking seven-game opening-round loss to the Brooklyn Nets.

The Raptors' Terrence Ross slams two of his 13 points on Wednesday. RICK MADONIK/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Toronto will face teams that qualified for last year's playoffs in four of its first six games. The good news, though, is the Raptors will play nine of their first 12 contests at the ACC, where they were 26-15 last season.

Toronto was 2-2 last year against Atlanta, which claimed the eighth Eastern Conference playoff seed last year with a 38-44 record. The Hawks' season also ended bitterly with a 4-3 opening-round playoff loss to the Indiana Pacers.

But it was an anxious finish for Toronto, which led 90-71 early in the fourth on consecutive baskets from Valanciunas. However Scott's three-pointer pulled Atlanta to within 103-99 with 1:26 remaining before two Kyle Lowry free throws boosted the Raptors' lead to 104-99 with 46.8 seconds left to play.

A goaltending call on Patrick Paterson allowed Atlanta to make it a four-point game (105-101) before two DeRozan free throws increased Toronto's lead to 107-101 with 32.4 seconds to play. Teague made one of two free throws to make it 107-102 but Patterson's dunk with about 13 seconds remaining cemented the victory. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Winning without LeBron

Bosh leads Heat past Wizards

Chris Bosh had 26 points and 15 rebounds, Norris Cole scored a career-high 23 points after winning Miami's starting point-guard job, and the Heat opened the post-LeBron James era with a 107-95 win over the Washington Wizards on Wednesday night.

Dwyane Wade added 21 points for Miami, 12 of those down the stretch after he briefly departed with a leg injury.

Marcin Gortat and Drew Gooden led the Wizards with 18 points apiece. John Wall finished with 16 points and 11 assists.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Gordie Howe

Family gathers around ailing Mr. Hockey

Gordie Howe has a long way to go to recover from a stroke he suffered over the weekend, his son said Wednesday amid an outpouring of support from the hockey community.

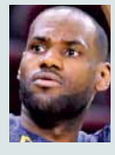
"Mr. Hockey" has shown some signs of improvement from what son Mark called a "pretty significant stroke" and is resting at his daughter Cathy's home in Lubbock, Texas.

"The best thing we can do is just be here and be supportive and try to keep him in good spirits," Mark Howe said in a phone interview from Lubbock.

Sons Mark, Marty and Murray travelled from their respective homes in New Jersey, Connecticut and Ohio on Tuesday to be with their father. Gordie Howe is 86 and also suffers from a form of dementia.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Cleveland's king returns



"It means everything to be able to open our NBA campaign here in Cleveland with these fans. It's going to be a special moment."

LeBron James who will take the court on Thursday night wearing a No. 23 Cavaliers uniform in a regular-season game for the first time in four years.

Giants leave 'em bummed in K.C.

Buster Posey, left, and Madison Bumgarner celebrate the final out in Game 7 of the World Series on Wednesday night in Kansas City, Mo. Bumgarner, named World Series MVP, pitched five innings of shutout ball in relief on two days rest to carry the San Francisco Giants to the championship. JAMIE SQUIRE/GETTY IMAGES

MLB. Another near-perfect five innings from Bumgarner gives San Fran its third title in five years

Game 7

Giants	Royals
3	2

Madison Bumgarner and the San Francisco Giants succeeded where no team had in 3-1/2 decades, winning Game 7 on the road for their third World Series title in five years.

Punctuating one of the finest October performances in baseball history, Bumgarner came out of the bullpen to pitch five scoreless innings on two days' rest for his third win of the Series, and the Giants held off the Kansas City Royals 3-2 Wednesday night in a championship pushed to the limit.

A two-out misplay in the ninth almost wrecked it for Bumgarner and the Giants. He had retired 14 in a row when Alex Gordon's single fell in front of centre fielder Gregor Blanco, who let the ball get past him for an error that allowed Gordon to reach third.

Bumgarner, however, retired Salvador Perez on a foul-out to third baseman Pedro Sandoval. The big left-hander was immediately embraced by catcher Buster Posey, and the rest of the Giants rushed to the mound to join the victory party. Most of the San Francisco players tossed their gloves high in the air as they ran to the centre of the diamond.

Three days after throwing 117 pitches in a four-hit shutout to win Game 5, Bumgarner threw 68 more and dropped his record-low career Series ERA to a barely visible 0.25.

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AUGMENTED REALITY

Stuck on 12 Across? Scan this image with your Metro News app for today's crossword and Sudoku answers. It's OK. No one's watching.

→ See the full instructions on Metro's Voices page.

Horoscopes by Sally Brompton

♈ Aries
March 21 - April 20
If nothing seems to add up today it's because you are trying to solve a problem that has no answer. It's OK to admit it. You don't have to be in control of each and every situation.

♉ Taurus
April 21 - May 21
If someone reacts in an emotional way to what you say today then perhaps you should take the hint and steer clear of touchy issues.

♊ Gemini
May 22 - June 21
You have a number of duties to attend to and, although you might prefer to ignore them, you feel honour bound to do what is expected of you. You'll be rewarded.

♋ Cancer
June 22 - July 23
If you try to limit someone's freedom today, it could rebound on you. Better to give them the space they require. It's unlikely they will wander too far without your approval.

♌ Leo
July 24 - Aug. 23
You may not get the results you expected today but don't worry — in the greater scheme of things you are making substantial progress.

♍ Virgo
Aug. 24 - Sept. 23
A change of scene will do you a world of good over the next 24 hours and could even lead to a financial opportunity you might otherwise have missed.

♎ Libra
Sept. 24 - Oct. 23
Fix your attention on a certain situation and learn as much as you can. The more you know, the better placed you will be to benefit from coming upheavals.

♏ Scorpio
Oct. 24 - Nov. 22
Make a conscious decision to go with the flow and don't think of it as a defeat if you have to change your plans at the last moment.

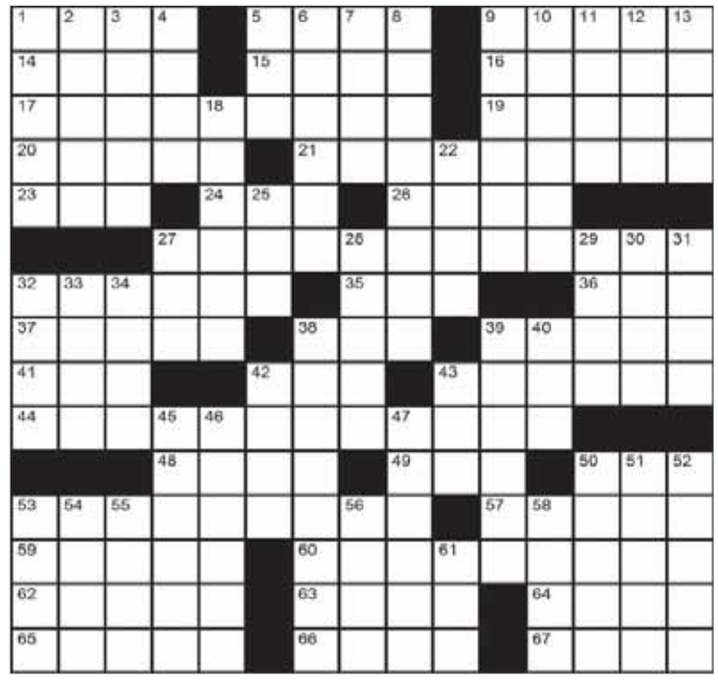
♐ Sagittarius
Nov. 23 - Dec. 21
You may feel as if you are getting nowhere fast but on a deeper level you are in fact making considerable progress.

♑ Capricorn
Dec. 22 - Jan. 20
You may know what is wrong with a certain situation but you are not in a position to put it right. The planets warn you should leave well alone. The cosmic picture will change over the next few days.

♒ Aquarius
Jan. 21 - Feb. 19
Your mind may be bursting with big ideas but what use are they if you don't knit them together into a coherent and workable plan? Bring those big ideas down to a human level.

♓ Pisces
Feb. 20 - March 20
Someone you haven't seen for a while will come back into your life and the effect on your feelings could be dramatic. Don't get carried away. They've changed a lot, and so have you.

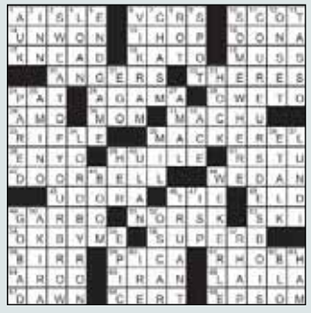
Crossword: Canada Across and Down by Kelly Ann Buchanan



Across
1. Rocky Mountains animal
5. Country singer's 2001 to 2007 sitcom
9. Fred Flintstone exclamation bit
14. Apiece
15. Richard of "A Summer Place" (1959)
16. The Hunter constellation
17. Tactical
19. "__ you!" (Response to an Achoo!)
20. "A League of __ Own" (1992)
21. The art of making sense
23. Cousin of -enne
24. Promise to pay
26. Biblical land
27. Montreal's is Rue Sainte-Catherine; Toronto's is Yonge Street ...what is Edmonton's main thoroughfare?: 2 wds.
32. Mike __, Mayor of Halifax
35. Speed __.
36. Li'l mailbox item
37. Inclined
38. Up to, briefly
39. Domicile
41. __ Radio-Canada
42. Jammies
43. Don __, Mayor of Edmonton
44. Halifax band Joel Plaskett fronted: 2 wds.
48. Commotion
49. Retro albums, briefly
50. Scott Weiland gr.
53. In-pain athlete's injection
57. Ice Cube, aka __ Jackson
59. __ cake
60. Bicycle support
62. Chicago's airport
63. Zeno of __ (Ancient Greek philosopher)
64. Hanna-Barbera specialty [abbr.]
65. Nervous
66. Take a break
67. Richard of reels

Down
1. Gary Cooper movie, "Beau __" (1939)
2. Vows
3. Property measures
4. Language spoken in Bangkok
5. Riddle-me-__
6. Dishware item at breakfast
7. Scott of "Charles in Charge"
8. Rachael __ (Marlo Cruz on Global TV's "Rookie Blue")
9. Nina of "The Vampire Diaries"
10. Ms. Dickinson of "Dragons' Den"
11. "Tres __!"
12. Particular pear
13. Grande-__, village in New Brunswick
18. Emergency Room who-needs-care-first process
22. Wax-coated cheese
25. Suffix with 'Lact'
27. Marcia and Cindy's sister
28. Actress, Kimberly __
29. Modernists
30. Take apart
31. Level
32. Skewer
33. Ingrid Bergman movie, "__ of Triumph" (1948)
34. See: French
38. William Shatner's '80s police series, "_-_-__"
39. Dispatch boats
40. Wager
42. Really smart letters
43. Little devil
45. Verbalizes
46. Evening party
47. Volleyballer-turned-author Gabrielle's
50. Western film of 1953 starring Alan Ladd
51. Hold: French
52. __ Amidala, Natalie Portman's 'Star Wars' movies role
53. Curdle
54. South Dakota dam
55. Macklemore & __ Lewis
56. River famous since ancient times
58. Groom-to-be's party
61. Chocolate treat, with Kit

Yesterday's Crossword



Online

See today's answers at metronews.ca/answers

Sudoku

How to play
Fill in the grid, so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved.

Yesterday's Sudoku

6	1	5	3	2	7	4	9	8
4	9	3	8	5	1	6	7	2
7	8	2	4	6	9	3	1	5
1	6	8	2	9	3	7	5	4
5	7	4	6	1	8	2	3	9
2	3	9	5	7	4	8	6	1
3	2	6	9	8	5	1	4	7
8	5	7	1	4	6	9	2	3
9	4	1	7	3	2	5	8	6

Conceptis Sudoku

By Dave Green

		7		6		9		
	4						1	
1			4		7			2
		9				4		
3								5
		2				6		
5			1		6			7
	7						9	
		6		5		3		

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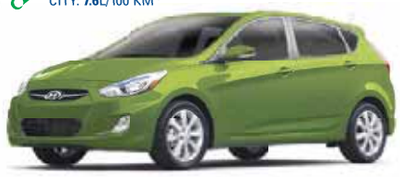

GLS model shown♦

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HWY: **7.4**L/100 KM
CITY: **10.4**L/100 KM▼

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HWY: **7.9**L/100 KM
CITY: **11.0**L/100 KM▼

Limited model shown♦

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